

in 1949, where he was the editor of the Maryland Law Review, which is a very high honor.

Also in 1949, he formed the first major African American law firm in Baltimore. He was the first African American appointed to the Municipal Court in Maryland. In 1968 he was appointed by Governor Spiro Agnew to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City.

As a judge, Watts was instrumental in desegregating numerous theaters, restaurants, department stores, hotels, and the Gwynn Oak Amusement Park. He was the first judge in Maryland to open hundreds of adoption records, reuniting numerous families. Judge Watts was one of the few judges who volunteered to be a part of our family court, the court that dealt with various disputes with regard to family matters, divorces, adoptions, and child support.

I had an opportunity, many opportunities, to go before him. And quite often he would tell us that the reason why he liked doing this kind of work was because he wanted to bring families together and have them see the bigger picture. He cared so much about children he wanted to make sure that fathers understood that they needed to be a part of their children's lives.

Moreover, Judge Robert Watts not only served justly and fairly in the courtroom but served in numerous organizations in the community. At one point in his career he served on 14 boards at the same time, among them Bon Secours Hospital, which is located in the seventh Congressional District. He chaired three gubernatorial task forces regarding family law, AIDS, and prison overcrowding and served the community as a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

He died October 8, 1998.

He was such a wonderful, wonderful husband to his wife Jacqueline. He was married to her for over 50 years.

And so we take this moment to salute him for all that he has done to make life better for so many people.

One great author said that, when speaking of a great person, he said he brought life to life. It is clear that Judge Watts did that.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, again I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) for introducing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank my friends, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA), for bringing forward this legislation that honors Judge Watts.

I can think of no person more appropriate to be honored than Judge Watts. He was my friend. He was my mentor.

As my colleagues have pointed out, yes, he was responsible for breaking many barriers. He was an outstanding jurist. He was a colleague of my father on the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City and a close friend of my father and our family.

I remember sharing many dinners together with Judge Watts and his family. He was an extraordinary individual. But I think his greatest accomplishment was the way that Judge Watts was able to bring communities and people together. He could mediate problems in a neighborhood. He could mediate problems in a city. He could mediate problems in our State. He was called upon by governors, by legislators, by jurists, by attorneys to help bring his wisdom to improve our community. And as the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) pointed out, he never turned down a request, serving on 14 boards at one time.

Let me just share with my colleagues one example of one board that he agreed to serve on. He served with me as a trustee at St. Mary's College in St. Mary's City, Maryland, not exactly close to his hometown of Baltimore. It was about a 2-hour commute in order to attend the trustees meetings.

Now, Judge Watts was well known in Baltimore, but he was willing to take his knowledge and expertise and use it to help a small liberal arts college in a rural part of our State.

He never missed a meeting that I can remember. He was always an active participant. We had a very sensitive issue that, quite frankly, I do not think anyone but Judge Watts could have resolved.

St. Mary's College is one of the finest public liberal arts colleges in this Nation. And this is a tribute also to Judge Watts' talent, leadership, and willingness to get involved in community activities.

Mr. Speaker, he spent his life serving his community. I am proud that today we are going to be able to honor his community by the naming of this facility.

I congratulate all involved.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) for his comments. As he was speaking, I could not help but remember the many times that Judge Watts sat in the meetings of blacks and Jews, we called them Blews, and tried to make sure that African-Americans and Jewish people worked together to resolve problems. He was a man who constantly looked for what people had in common, as opposed to their differences; and he fully understood that if we concentrated on the things we have in common, we can accomplish so very, very much.

So we take this moment not only to salute Judge Watts, but we also salute Mrs. Watts, Jacqueline Watts; his five

children Robert, Rodney, Jacqueline, Janelle, and Bobbett; and we take this moment to name this post office after him so that, as I have said so many, many times, so that when children look at the post office and look at the name up there, they can say, Well, who was Judge Watts? And it may be many, many years from now and somebody will be able to say, Well, he was a great jurist, he was a great great humanitarian and, in the words of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), he was a consensus builder and one who brought people together.

I do not think we can give any greater tribute to any person greater than the one we have given here today. I urge passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we can see there is unanimity among the Maryland delegation on behalf of the Nation and the service of Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. So I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUYKENDALL). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4448.

The question was taken.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DR. FLOSSIE MCCLAIN DEDMOND POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4449) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4449

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DR. FLOSSIE MCCLAIN DEDMOND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4449.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us, H.R. 4449, was introduced by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS), my colleague. This legislation designates the post office located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office." Each member of the Maryland delegation has cosponsored this legislation, pursuant to the policy of the Committee on Government Reform.

Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond earned a bachelor's degree in English from Fisk University, a master's degree from Columbia University, and she pursued postgraduate studies in English and speech at Ohio State University and Catholic University of America, respectively.

Dr. Dedmond taught and held administrative positions at Allen University, Benedict College, Knoxville College, Morgan State University, and Coppin State College, where she spent 31 years in various posts.

She held various positions at Coppin, including professor of English, head of the English Department, and chair of numerous committees. She was also the director of the summer/evening college and retired as dean of the arts and sciences division.

The first residence hall at Coppin State College was named "The Flossie M. Dedmond Center for Living and Learning." Dr. Dedmond was bestowed the honor of Dean Emeritus when she retired from Coppin State.

Dr. Dedmond passed away on September 11, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 4449, a bill that honors a great academician who has inspired innumerable young Americans.

I also want to recognize the dedicated work of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) in bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond earned a bachelor's degree in English from Fisk University, received a master's degree from Columbia University, and pursued postgraduate studies at Ohio State University and Catholic University of America. She served in teaching and administrative positions at Allen University, Benedict College, Knoxville College, Morgan State University, and Coppin State College.

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Dr. Dedmond spent 31 years working at Coppin State College where she served in numerous roles. Upon her retirement, the honor of Dean Emeritus was bestowed upon her. In 1993, Coppin's first residence hall was named after her and is called the Flossie M. Dedmond Center for Living and Learning.

A talented musician, Dr. Dedmond composed the alma mater for Allen University, and the song is still in use today. Along with her other many talents and honors, Dr. Dedmond was a prize winning poet. For over 6 years, she served as the Governor's appointee on a 13-member appellate judicial nominating commission. She is the former national vice president of the National Council of Negro Women. Dr. Dedmond was also a 52-year member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a service sorority. In her many years of service to this organization, she was a former national public relations director of the sorority and was one of the organization's incorporators of the Cleveland Job Corps. She died on September 11, 1998.

Dr. Burnett, the President of Coppin State University, tells a very interesting story about how, when she was dean, she had a major trip that she was supposed to take to Austria to deliver a paper and it was probably the most important trip of her life as a college educator. He said that she was prepared to go but they had some problems at the university and so he thought that she had flown off to deliver her paper in Austria. So he walks in early that Monday morning to try to address the problems, and she is sitting there in his office. He said, "Why are you still here?" She says, "I'm here because I didn't want to leave you here to drown. I wanted to stay here to make sure that the students who come through the doors of this university have an opportunity to move forward and become the great people that I know that they can be."

That was what Dr. Dedmond was all about, touching the lives of college students, making sure that they were prepared to go out of the doors of Coppin State University and other historically black colleges and universities so that they could touch others to make their lives better.

She would often talk about breaking the cycle of poverty and breaking the cycle of illiteracy and breaking the cycle of alcoholism and health problems and she wanted to do her part; and she did, staying so long at Coppin State University, touching the young people's lives, making it so that they could break the cycles in their own families. And so today we salute her.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this very important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This legislation honors a woman, Dr. Dedmond, who was a woman of arts and letters and great service to her country and to her community.

It is important that we open the doors of opportunity for others, but it is also very important that we prepare them to go through those doors. That is what Dr. Dedmond did.

I urge passage of H.R. 4449.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUYKENDALL). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4449.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE BART STUPAK, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable BART STUPAK, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 9, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that my office has been served with a civil subpoena for documents issued by the Circuit Court for the 47th Judicial Circuit of Michigan and directed to the "Custodian of Records."

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that it is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House to notify the party that issued the subpoenas that I do not have any responsive documents.

Sincerely,

BART STUPAK,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR., MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Anthony Traficanti, office of the Honorable JAMES A. TRAFICANT, Jr., Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 10, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that I have received a subpoena for testimony before the grand jury issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY TRAFICANT.